(c) what action has been taken by Government in respect of irregularities found during the investigation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) Presumably the Hon'ble Members are referring Regional Rural Banks (RRBs). Under Section 35 of Banking Regulation Act, 1949 statutory inspections of the RRBs are conducted by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and in regard to irregularities relating to administrative/ financial expenditure and other operational matters noticed, the banks are asked to rectify the situation immediately and the matter is followed up. In addition, the operations of the RRBs as well as their Financial and Administrative expenditure are monitored based on their annual accounts submitted every year as well as through the quarterly operational data which are completed for analysis at NABARD. Based on these data a number of performance parameters are worked out and banks are advised accordingly.

In case the inspection report of NABARD or the performance monitoring brings about any irregularities, action is initiated forthwith. Further, whenever complaints are received from members of public, loanees etc., the matter is got examined immediately for necessary action.

Functioning of MNCs in the country

7832. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the multinational companies functioning in the country at present; and

(b) the amount of funds repatriated abroad by each one of them, respectively, out of the profits earned by them during the year 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Norms prevalent in other countries for public issues

7833. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether SEBI has studied the pricing and disclosure norms prevalent in other countries for Public issues;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposals from foreign stock exchange authorities have been adopted by SEBI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. However a study of pricing and disclosure norms prevalent in other countries is a continuous exercise. SEBI adopts such norms with suitable modifications to meet the requirements of the Indian securities market.

Bank fraud unearthed by CBI

7834. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "CBI unearths Rs. 90 lakh bank fraud" as reported in the Pioneer dated 31.3.95;

(b) if so, whether the CBI has registered case against officials of bank and private firms for duping lakhs of rupees;

(c) if so, the fact and details thereof; and

(d) what further action Government contemplate in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The investigation conducted by Central Bank of India had revealed that certin lapses/irregularities were committed by the then Branch Manager and Regional Manager in sanction and conduct of borrowal accounts of M/s. Chabra Textile Mills and M/s. Anchal Silk and Sarees. These officials are reported to have shown undue favour to the firms by recommending adhoc/higher limits and by allowing certain other facilities despite existence of several adverse features in the conduct of the accounts. The bank had already filed suits for recovery of its dues. The bank also proposes to initiate departmental action against the concerned officials. CBI have also registered two cases against 5 officials of the bank and some private persons in the matter?

Implementation of Health Insurance Schemes in India by Foreign Insurance Companies

7835. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "US expert proposes health insurance" as reported in the Hindutan Times dated the 14th February, 1995;

(b) if so, whether several foreign insurance companies are going to implement health insurance schemes in India;

(c) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to implement health insurance schemes as in the US; if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per the existing laws, the transaction of general insurance business in India is the exclusive privilege of the GIC and no foreign insurance company can transact any class of general insurance business including Health Insurance.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration. The Indian general insurance industry provides health insurance schemes through Medi-claim insurance and taillor made group health insurance policies designed to meet the specific requirements of clients.

Modification of National Equity Fund by SIDBI

7836. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has recently modified the National Equity Fund (NEF) Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The modifications to the National Equity Fund (NEF) scheme by Small Industries Development Bank of India